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OFGS File No. : P/3253-3  
Inventor : Hayley Korn et al.  
Title : APPARATUS FOR DISABLING A TELEPHONE RINGER  
Assignee :

Enclosed herewith please find the following documents in the above-identified application for United States Letters Patent:

☒ 21 Pages of Specification including Abstract and Claims  
☒ 2 Numbered Claims Calculated as 51 Claims for Fee Purposes  
☒ 2 Sheets of Drawing Containing Figures 1 to 3. (Formal/Informal)  
☒ Declaration and Power of Attorney  
Priority is Claimed under 35 U.S.C. §119:  
Convention Date \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ Appln. S.N. \_\_\_\_\_  
☒ Certified Priority Application  
☒ Verified Statement Claiming Small Entity Status under 37 C.F.R. §1.27.  
Assignment  
☒ Return-Addressed Post Card

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APPARATUS FOR DISABLING A TELEPHONE RINGERBACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION1. Field of the Invention

5 This invention generally relates to an  
apparatus for controlling a telephone and, more  
particularly, to an apparatus that includes a device  
sensitive to light in communication with a controller so  
that in response to ambient light below a predetermined  
level, said device provides a signal to said controller  
10 which then disables the telephone ringer.

2. Related Art

With ever expanding telephone usage, we are  
increasingly inundated with unwanted telephone calls.  
Anyone who has been startled awake at night by a "wrong  
15 number" knows that it is desirable for telephone  
subscribers to be able to disable the ringer mechanism of  
their telephones when they do not want to be disturbed.  
Thus, one could elect to disable a telephone's ringer  
while sleeping, eating, bathing, or simply while engaged  
20 in a quiet activity. Prior to modern modular telephone  
connections, the only method of silencing a telephone's  
ringer was to turn down the ringer's volume, or leave the  
receiver off of the hook. Now, one can simply disconnect  
the modular plug from the telephone itself or from the  
25 wall jack. With the telephone disconnected, the caller  
would hear a ring signal and assume the person called is  
not in, while the person called hears nothing.

There are, however, numerous problems associated with disconnecting a telephone's modular plug. First, this method requires the user to remember to employ the remedy. In addition, the user must also  
5 remember to reconnect the modular plug to reinstate telephone service. Thus, disabling a telephone's ringer via pulling its modular plug is subject to the same risks and problems that are associated with turning the ringer's volume down or leaving the receiver off the  
10 hook. People forget and, thus, receive calls at unwanted times or miss calls they are willing to receive.

Over the years, people have attempted to solve the problems addressed by this invention in numerous ways. For example, timers have been used in combination  
15 with telephone silencers to disable a telephone for time periods when the user does not wish to be disturbed. Similarly, there are commercial devices available that have on-off switches that allow a telephone ringer to be enabled and disabled. However, these too require that  
20 the user remember to employ the remedy in order to avoid phone calls, and then remember to reactivate it when willing to receive calls. Consequently, there is a need for an apparatus that selectively enables and disables a telephone ringer.

#### 25 SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

In order to overcome the disadvantages of the prior art, the present invention includes a light sensing device operable to produce a signal indicative of a level  
30 of ambient light; and a controller operable to receive the signal and disable the telephone ringer when the signal indicates that the ambient light has reached a predetermined level.

According to another aspect of the present invention, an apparatus for disabling a telephone ringer includes a light sensing device operable to produce a first signal indicative of a level of ambient light; a  
5 timing device operable to produce a second signal indicative of a timing condition; and a controller operable to receive the first and second signals and disable the telephone ringer when either (i) the first signal indicates that the ambient light has reached a  
10 predetermined level, or (ii) the second signal indicates that a predetermined timing condition has been satisfied.

According to a further aspect of the present invention, an apparatus for disabling a telephone ringer includes a light sensing device operable to produce a  
15 first signal indicative of a level of ambient light; a timing device operable to produce a second signal indicative of a timing condition; a controller operable to receive the first and second signals and disable the telephone ringer when either (i) the first signal  
20 indicates that the ambient light has reached a predetermined level, or (ii) the second signal indicates that a predetermined timing condition has been satisfied; and a recording device operable to communicate with the controller and play back a recording to a calling party.

According to still another aspect of the present invention, an apparatus for disabling a telephone ringer includes a light sensing device operable to  
25 produce a first signal indicative of a level of ambient light; a timing device operable to produce a second signal indicative of a timing condition; a recording  
30 device operable to play back a recording to a calling party, the recording prompting the calling party to provide indicia that the call is a priority call; and a

controller communicating with the light sensing device,  
the timing device and the recording device, the  
controller being operable to receive the first and second  
signals and both (i) disable the telephone ringer, and  
5 (ii) enable the recording device such that the recording  
device may play back the recording to the calling party,  
when either (i) the first signal indicates that the  
ambient light has reached a predetermined level, or (ii)  
the second signal indicates that a predetermined timing  
10 condition has been satisfied, the controller being  
operable to initiate an emergency sequence when the  
indicia indicates that the call is a priority call.

Additional objects, features and advantages of  
the present invention will become apparent from the  
15 following description and the appended claims, taken in  
connection with the accompanying drawing.

#### **BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS**

For the purpose of illustrating the invention,  
there are shown in the drawing forms which are presently  
20 preferred, it being understood, however, that the  
invention is not limited to the precise arrangements and  
instrumentalities shown.

FIG. 1 is a block diagram of an apparatus for  
disabling a telephone ringer in accordance with at least  
25 one aspect the present invention;

FIG. 2 is a block diagram of an apparatus for  
disabling a telephone ringer in accordance with another  
aspect of the present invention; and

FIG. 3 is a block diagram of an apparatus for  
30 disabling a telephone ringer in accordance with yet  
another aspect of the present invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

Referring now to the drawing wherein like numerals indicate like elements, there is shown in FIG. 1 a first embodiment of the present invention. Apparatus 10 is a telephone controlling system which includes light sensor 12, controller 14 and timer 16 as shown. Both the light sensor 12 and timer 16 communicate with controller 14 which in turn serves to enable and disable ringer 20 of telephone 18.

While timer 16 is shown in this embodiment, it will be appreciated by those of ordinary skill in the art that timer 16 need not be included in apparatus 10. That is, apparatus 10 could merely consist of light sensor 12 and controller 14 in communication with telephone 18 and ringer 20. Accordingly, connection 17 between timer 16 and controller 14 is shown as a dashed line.

Light sensor 12 may be a photovoltaic cell, a photo-transistor, a photo-resistor or other photo-sensitive component known in the art. As the level of ambient light changes, light sensor 12 provides controller 14 with a first signal which changes in accordance with the level of ambient light. When the ambient light reaches a predetermined level (preferably falling below a predetermined level), controller 14 will recognize that light sensor 12 is sending a first signal indicating that the ringer 20 should be disabled. The controller 14 will preferably respond to the first signal by disabling ringer 20 of telephone 18.

Timer 16 may be a clock timer (such as a digital clock circuit) that provides a second signal to controller 14 indicative of a timing condition or set of conditions. For example, the second signal may be representative of periodic pre-set times at which the

controller 14 should sequentially enable and disable  
ringer 20 of telephone 18. Alternatively, timer 16 may  
be a multi-day clock timer and provide a second signal to  
controller 14 indicating that at varying times on varying  
5 days the ringer 20 of telephone 18 should be enabled and  
disabled.

In apparatus 10, controller 14 will enable and  
disable ringer 20 of telephone 18 in response to a first  
signal from light sensor 12 and/or a second signal from  
10 timer 16. Those of ordinary skill in the art, however,  
will appreciate that controller 14 could be adapted in  
such a manner to be responsive only to the first signal  
from light sensor 12 or the second signal from timer 16.

Another embodiment of the present invention is  
15 shown in FIG. 2 and includes light sensor 12 and timer 16  
in communication with controller 26. Light sensor 12 may  
be a photovoltaic cell, a photo-transistor a photo-  
resistor or other photo-sensitive component as discussed  
above with respect to apparatus 10. Timer 16 is  
20 preferably substantially the same as timer 16 of FIG. 1.

Unlike apparatus 10 in FIG. 1, apparatus 22 of  
FIG. 2 includes a recording device 34. Recording device  
34 may be in the form of an answering machine, answering  
service or the like. In the embodiment of the present  
25 invention shown in FIG. 2, controller 26 preferably  
disables ringer 32 of telephone 30 and enables recording  
device 34 (via signal line 33) to answer any incoming  
phone calls in response to a first signal from light  
sensor 12 and/or second signal from timer 16.

30 Preferably, recording device 34 is capable of  
playing back a recording to a calling party and is also  
capable of receiving and retaining a message from the  
calling party.

Reference is now made to Fig. 3 which shows an alternative embodiment of the present invention designated as apparatus 50. Apparatus 50 is a telephone controlling system which includes light sensor 12, timer 16 and recording device 54 in communication with controller 52. Timer 16 and light sensor 12 are substantially similar to timers and light sensors, respectively, of the previous embodiments of the present invention. As was the case with the previous embodiments of the present invention, controller 52 operates to disable ringer 32 of telephone 30 in response to first and/or second signals from light sensor 12 and timer 16, respectively.

Recording device 54 is preferably operable to play back a recording to a calling party which states, in pertinent part, "if this is an emergency, press '\*'." This recording is provided to controller 52 via signal line 35 and, thereafter, to the calling party over the telephone line (not shown). Therefore, the calling party can opt to press the '\*' button on his or her telephone handset to initiate an emergency sequence (or indicate that the call is a priority call). It is noted that the recording provided to the calling party may take on many forms as will be apparent to one skilled in the art from the above teaching. Further, one skilled in the art will recognize that it is not necessary to utilize the '\*' button of the telephone as indicia that the emergency sequence should be initiated and that other means of initiating the emergency sequence are available (such as using other keypad buttons or sequences of keypad buttons).

Should the calling party choose to initiate the emergency sequence by pressing the '\*' button on his or



her keypad, the controller 52 may take one or more actions. In particular, the controller 52 may reactivate ringer 32 of telephone 30 such that telephone 30 rings and the user is alerted that an emergency telephone call is being received. Alternatively, (assuming the recording provided to the calling party also states that a message should be left by the calling party) controller 52 may activate recording device 54 to record the calling party's message and then terminate the calling party's connection to telephone 30. Thereafter, controller 52 may alert the user by other means, such as subsequently enabling ringer 32 or enabling an alert device 56 which indicates that an emergency call has been received. Alert device 56 may be a ringer, a light emitting device, or the like.

One skilled in the art will appreciate from the teaching herein that the controller 52 need not directly control recording device 54 if the recording device 54 is designed to automatically answer incoming calls irrespective of whether ringer 32 has been disabled by controller 52. Indeed, known answering machines may be coupled to a telephone line (not shown) which will answer incoming calls without input from controller 52. Generally, such answering machines (if used for recording device 54) may communicate with telephone 30 via its input jack as shown by dashed signal line 36. However, when controller 26 is in communication with telephone 30 via its input jack and recording device 30 is directly connected to the telephone line, then recording device 34 may communicate with controller 54 via signal line 35 such that telephone 30 may access the telephone line.

While the invention as discussed above is generally directed to an apparatus that may be inserted

between an input of a telephone (e.g., the input jack to  
the telephone) and the telephone line (e.g. a modular  
plug coming from the ring/tip connections of the  
telephone line), those of ordinary skill in the art will  
5 appreciate that the present invention may be used in  
conjunction with a number of appliances. Indeed, the  
invention can be incorporated into a telephone answering  
machine, as well as alarm clocks, and other devices. A  
complete telephone can even be constructed that contains  
10 the invention internally (e.g., integrally). In  
addition, the invention could also be inserted  
immediately after the interface of one's incoming phone  
service in order to control all of the phones in a house  
or office. Further, one skilled in the art will  
15 recognize that timers 16, 16 may be integral to  
respective controllers 14, 26, 52.

The foregoing description of the preferred  
embodiments of the present invention have been provided  
for the purpose of illustration and description. They  
20 are not intended to be exhaustive or to limit the  
invention to the precise forms disclosed. Many  
modifications and variations are possible in light of the  
above teaching. It is intended that the scope of the  
invention be limited not by this detailed description,  
25 but rather by the claims appended hereto.

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WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An apparatus for disabling a telephone ringer comprising:

a light sensing device operable to produce a signal indicative of a level of ambient light; and

a controller operable to receive the signal and disable the telephone ringer when the signal indicates that the ambient light has reached a predetermined level.

2. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the controller is operable to disable the telephone ringer when the signal indicates that the ambient light has fallen below a predetermined threshold.

3. The apparatus according in claim 1, wherein the light sensing device is taken from the group consisting of a photovoltaic cell, a photo-transistor, and a photo-resistor.

4. The apparatus according in claim 1, wherein the light sensing device and controller are external to the telephone and the controller is operable to couple between a telephone line and an input connection of the telephone.

5. The apparatus according in claim 1, wherein the light sensing device and controller are integral with the telephone.

6. An apparatus for disabling a telephone ringer comprising:

a light sensing device operable to produce a first signal indicative of a level of ambient light;

5           a timing device operable to produce a second  
signal indicative of a timing condition; and  
          a controller operable to receive the first and  
second signals and disable the telephone ringer when  
either (i) the first signal indicates that the ambient  
10       light has reached a predetermined level, or (ii) the  
second signal indicates that a predetermined timing  
condition has been satisfied.

7.    The apparatus according to claim 6,  
wherein the controller is operable to disable the  
telephone ringer when the first signal indicates that the  
ambient light has fallen below a predetermined threshold.

8.    The apparatus according in claim 6,  
wherein the light sensing device is taken from the group  
consisting of a photovoltaic cell, a photo-transistor,  
and a photo-resistor.

9.    The apparatus according in claim 6,  
wherein the light sensing device, timing device and  
controller are external to the telephone and the  
controller is operable to couple between a telephone line  
5       and an input connection of the telephone.

10.   The apparatus according in claim 6,  
wherein the light sensing device, timing device and  
controller are integral with the telephone.

11.   The apparatus according to claim 6,  
wherein the timing device is operable to provide the  
second signal to the controller to indicate that the

5 telephone ringer is to be sequentially disabled and enabled at periodic pre-set times.

5 12. The apparatus according to claim 6, wherein the timing device is operable to provide the second signal to the controller to indicate that the telephone ringer is to be sequentially disabled and enabled at varying times on varying days.

13. The apparatus according to claim 6, wherein the timing device is integral with the controller.

14. An apparatus for disabling a telephone ringer comprising:

a light sensing device operable to produce a signal indicative of a level of ambient light;

a controller operable to receive the signal and disable the telephone ringer when the signal indicates that the ambient light has reached a predetermined level; and

10 a recording device operable to communicate with the controller and play back a recording to a calling party.

5 15. The apparatus according to claim 14, wherein the controller is operable to enable and disable the recording device such that the recording device may play back a recording to a calling party only when the signal indicates that the ambient light has reached the predetermined level.

16. The apparatus according to claim 14, wherein the recording device is operable to receive and retain a message from the calling party.

17. The apparatus according to claim 14, wherein the controller is operable to disable the telephone ringer when the signal indicates that the ambient light has fallen below a predetermined threshold.

18. The apparatus according in claim 14, wherein the light sensing device is taken from the group consisting of a photovoltaic cell, a photo-transistor, and a photo-resistor.

19. The apparatus according in claim 14, wherein the light sensing device, recording device and controller are external to the telephone and the controller is operable to couple between a telephone line and an input connection of the telephone.

20. The apparatus according in claim 14, wherein the light sensing device and controller are integral with the telephone.

21. An apparatus for disabling a telephone ringer comprising:

a light sensing device operable to produce a first signal indicative of a level of ambient light;

a timing device operable to produce a second signal indicative of a timing condition;

a controller operable to receive the first and second signals and disable the telephone ringer when either (i) the first signal indicates that the ambient

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10 light has reached a predetermined level, or (ii) the  
second signal indicates that a predetermined timing  
condition has been satisfied; and

15 a recording device operable to communicate with  
the controller and play back a recording to a calling  
party.

22. The apparatus according to claim 21,  
wherein the controller is operable to enable and disable  
the recording device such that the recording device may  
play back the recording to the calling party only when  
either (i) the first signal indicates that the ambient  
light has reached the predetermined level, or (ii) the  
second signal indicates that the predetermined timing  
condition has been satisfied.

23. The apparatus according to claim 21,  
wherein the recording device is operable to receive and  
retain a message from the calling party.

24. The apparatus according to claim 21,  
wherein the controller is operable to disable the  
telephone ringer when the first signal indicates that the  
ambient light has fallen below a predetermined threshold.

25. The apparatus according in claim 21,  
wherein the light sensing device is taken from the group  
consisting of a photovoltaic cell, a photo-transistor,  
and a photo-resistor.

26. The apparatus according in claim 21,  
wherein the light sensing device, timing device and  
controller are external to the telephone and the

controller is operable to couple between a telephone line  
and an input connection of the telephone.

27. The apparatus according in claim 21,  
wherein the light sensing device, timing device and  
controller are integral with the telephone.

28. The apparatus according to claim 21,  
wherein the timing device is operable to provide the  
second signal to the controller to indicate that the  
telephone ringer is to be sequentially disabled and  
enabled at periodic pre-set times.

29. The apparatus according to claim 21,  
wherein the timing device is operable to provide the  
second signal to the controller to indicate that the  
telephone ringer is to be sequentially disabled and  
enabled at varying times on varying days.

30. The apparatus according to claim 21,  
wherein the timing device is integral with the  
controller.

31. An apparatus for disabling a telephone  
ringer comprising:

a light sensing device operable to produce a  
signal indicative of a level of ambient light;

a recording device operable to play back a  
recording to a calling party, the recording prompting the  
calling party to provide indicia that the call is a  
priority call; and

a controller communicating with the light  
sensing device and the recording device, the controller



being operable to receive the signal and both (i) disable the telephone ringer, and (ii) enable the recording device such that the recording device may play back the recording to the calling party, when the signal indicates that the ambient light has reached a predetermined level, the controller being operable to initiate an emergency sequence when the indicia indicates that the call is a priority call.

32. The apparatus according to claim 31, wherein the emergency sequence includes enabling the telephone ringer irrespective of whether the signal indicates that the ambient light has reached the predetermined level.

33. The apparatus according to claim 31, further comprising an alert device in communication with the controller, the controller activating the alert device when the indicia indicates that the call is a priority call.

34. The apparatus according to claim 31, wherein the recording prompts the calling party to press a telephone keypad button to indicate that the call is a priority call, the controller being operable to recognize the pressed telephone keypad button such that the emergency sequence is initiated.

35. The apparatus according to claim 31, wherein the recording device is operable to receive and retain a message from the calling party.

36. The apparatus according to claim 31,  
wherein the controller is operable to disable the  
telephone ringer and enable the recording device when the  
signal indicates that the ambient light has fallen below  
a predetermined threshold.

37. The apparatus according in claim 31,  
wherein the light sensing device is taken from the group  
consisting of a photovoltaic cell, a photo-transistor,  
and a photo-resistor.

38. The apparatus according in claim 31,  
wherein the light sensing device, recording device and  
controller are external to the telephone and the  
controller is operable to couple between a telephone line  
and an input connection of the telephone.

39. The apparatus according in claim 31,  
wherein the light sensing device and controller are  
integral with the telephone.

40. An apparatus for disabling a telephone  
ringer comprising:

a light sensing device operable to produce a  
first signal indicative of a level of ambient light;

a timing device operable to produce a second  
signal indicative of a timing condition;

a recording device operable to play back a  
recording to a calling party, the recording prompting the  
calling party to provide indicia that the call is a  
priority call; and

a controller communicating with the light  
sensing device, the timing device and the recording

device, the controller being operable to receive the first and second signals and both (i) disable the telephone ringer, and (ii) enable the recording device such that the recording device may play back the recording to the calling party, when either (i) the first signal indicates that the ambient light has reached a predetermined level, or (ii) the second signal indicates that a predetermined timing condition has been satisfied, the controller being operable to initiate an emergency sequence when the indicia indicates that the call is a priority call.

41. The apparatus according to claim 40, wherein the emergency sequence includes enabling the telephone ringer irrespective of whether either of the first and second signals indicates that the telephone ringer should be disabled.

42. The apparatus according to claim 40, further comprising an alert device in communication with the controller, the controller activating the alert device when the indicia indicates that the call is a priority call.

43. The apparatus according to claim 40, wherein the recording prompts the calling party to press a telephone keypad button to indicate that the call is a priority call, the controller being operable to recognize the pressed telephone keypad button such that the emergency sequence is initiated.

44. The apparatus according to claim 40, wherein the recording device is operable to receive and retain a message from the calling party.

45. The apparatus according to claim 40, wherein the controller is operable to disable the telephone ringer and enable the recording device when the signal indicates that the ambient light has fallen below a predetermined threshold.

46. The apparatus according in claim 40, wherein the light sensing device is taken from the group consisting of a photovoltaic cell, a photo-transistor, and a photo-resistor.

47. The apparatus according in claim 40, wherein the light sensing device, timing device, recording device and controller are external to the telephone and the controller is operable to couple between a telephone line and an input connection of the telephone.

48. The apparatus according in claim 40, wherein the light sensing device, timing device and controller are integral with the telephone.

49. The apparatus according to claim 40, wherein the timing device is operable to provide the second signal to the controller to indicate that the telephone ringer is to be sequentially disabled and enabled at periodic pre-set times.

50. The apparatus according to claim 40,  
wherein the timing device is operable to provide the  
second signal to the controller to indicate that the  
telephone ringer is to be sequentially disabled and  
enabled at varying times on varying days.

51. The apparatus according to claim 40,  
wherein the timing device is integral with the  
controller.

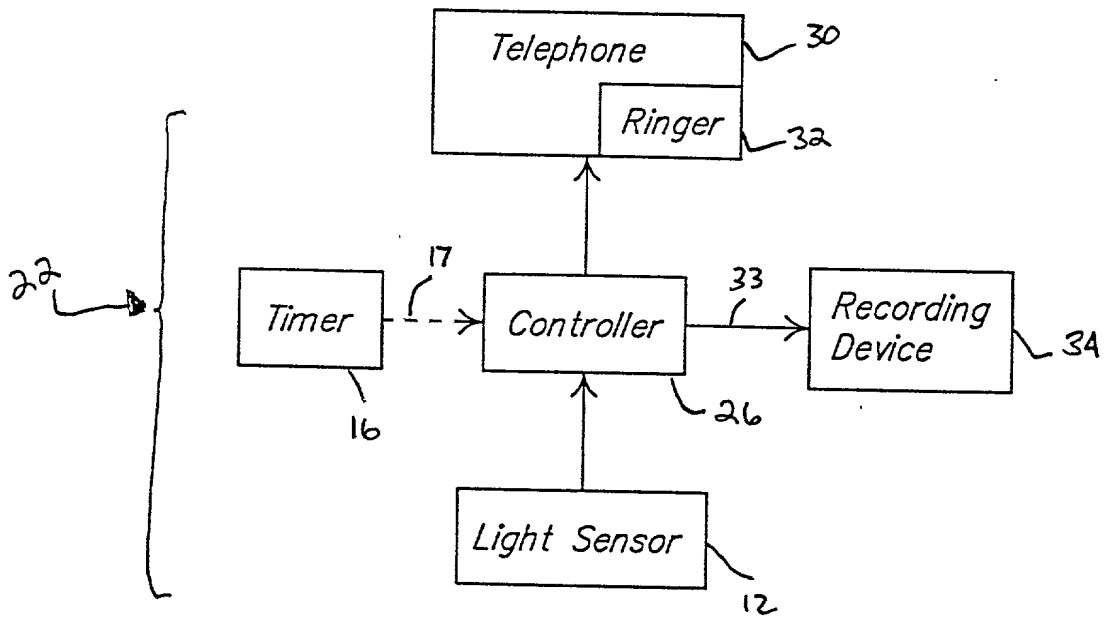
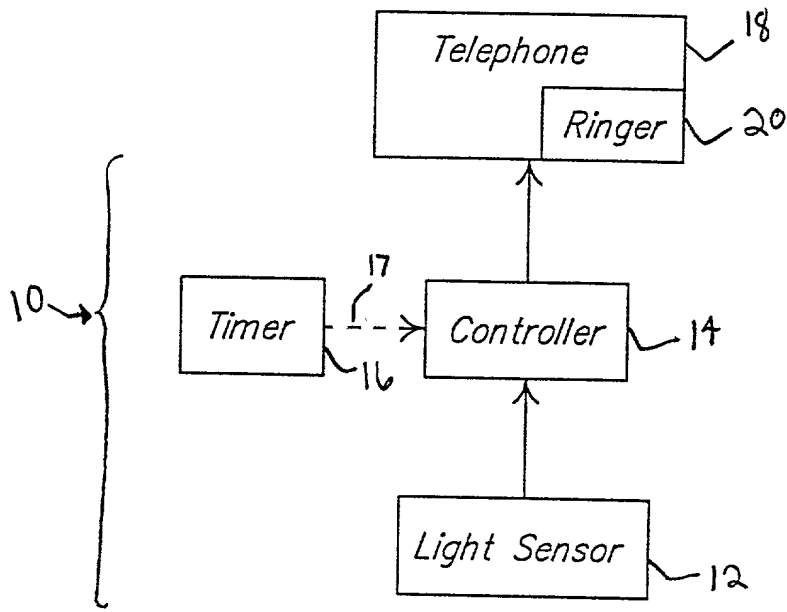
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APPARATUS FOR DISABLING A TELEPHONE RINGER

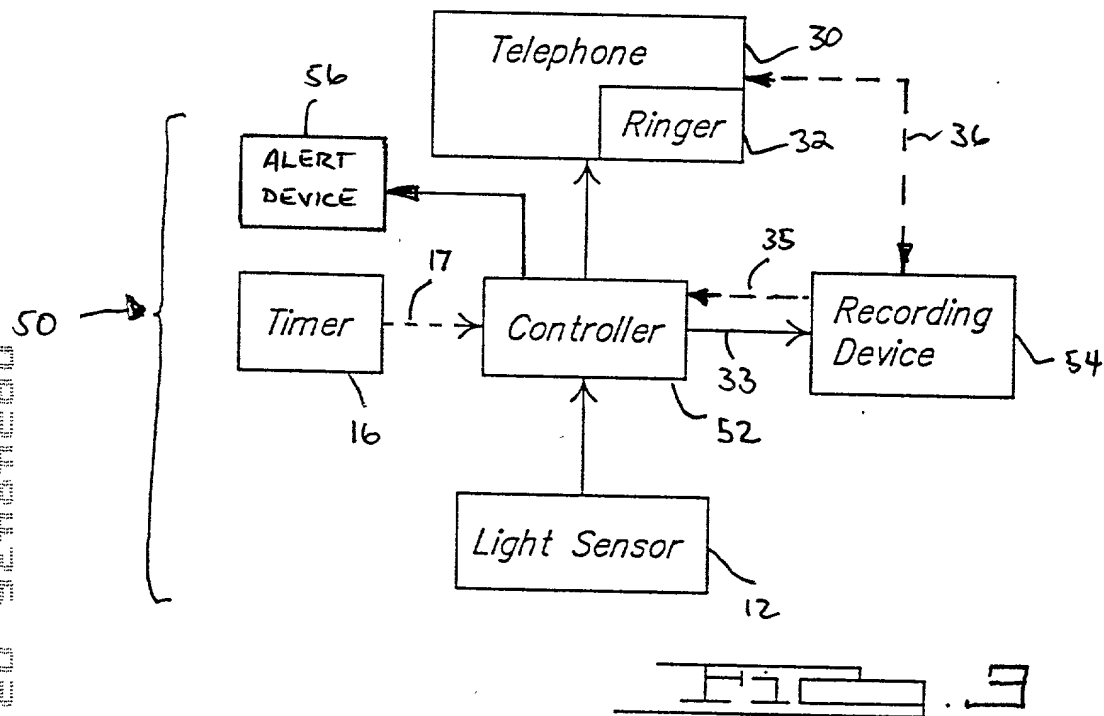
ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An apparatus for disabling a telephone ringer includes a light sensing device operable to produce a signal indicative of a level of ambient light; and a controller operable to receive the signal and disable the telephone ringer when the signal indicates that the ambient light has reached a predetermined level.

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA COMBINE DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR PATENT APPLICATION		OFGS FILE NO.: P/3253-3																																																							
<p>As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that: my residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name; that I verily believe that I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or a joint inventor (if plural inventors are named) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:</p> <p><b>APPARATUS FOR DISABLING A TELEPHONE RINGER</b></p> <p>the specification of which is attached hereto, unless the following box is checked:</p> <p>was filed on _____ as United States patent Application Number or PCT International patent application number _____ and was amended on _____ (if any).</p> <p>I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.</p> <p>I acknowledge the duty to disclose all information known to be material to patentability in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56.</p> <p>I hereby claim priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code §119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or United States provisional application(s) listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:</p> <p>Prior Foreign or Provisional Application(s)</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 25%;">COUNTRY</th> <th style="width: 25%;">APPLICATION NUMBER</th> <th style="width: 25%;">DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)</th> <th style="width: 25%;">PRIORITY CLAIMED UNDER 35 U.S.C. 119</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td>YES ____ NO ____</td> </tr> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td>YES ____ NO ____</td> </tr> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td>YES ____ NO ____</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 33%;">UNITED STATES APPLICATION NUMBER</th> <th style="width: 33%;">DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)</th> <th style="width: 34%;">STATUS (patented, pending, abandoned)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p>I hereby appoint J. David Dainow - Reg. No. 22,959 and customer no. 2352 OSTROLENK, FABER, GERB &amp; SOFFEN, LLP, J. David Dainow - Reg. No. 22,959 and the members of the firm, Samuel H. Weiner - Reg. No. 18,510; Jerome M. Berliner - Reg. No. 18,653; Robert C. Faber - Reg. No. 24,322; Edward A. Meilman - Reg. No. 24,735; Stanley H. Lieberstein - Reg. No. 22,400; Steven I. Weisburd - Reg. No. 27,409; Max Moskowitz - Reg. No. 30,576; Stephen A. Soffen - Reg. No. 31,063; James A. Finder - Reg. No. 30,173; William O. Gray, III - Reg. No. 30,944; Louis C. Dujmich - Reg. No. 30,625 and Douglas A. Miro - Reg. No. 31,643, as attorneys with full power of substitution and revocation to prosecute this application, to transact all business in the Patent &amp; Trademark Office connected therewith and to receive all correspondence.</p> <p>SEND CORRESPONDENCE TO: <b>OSTROLENK, FABER, GERB &amp; SOFFEN, LLP</b> 1180 AVENUE OF THE AMERICAS NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10036-8403 CUSTOMER NO. 2352</p> <p>DIRECT TELEPHONE CALLS TO: (212) 382-0700</p> <p>I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 33%;">FULL NAME OF SOLE OR FIRST INVENTOR <b>HARRY KORN</b></td> <td style="width: 33%;">INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE <i>Harry Korn</i></td> <td style="width: 34%;">DATE <b>1/8/99</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">RESIDENCE 159 East 69th Street, New York, New York 10021</td> <td>COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP US</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3">POST OFFICE ADDRESS SAME AS ABOVE</td> </tr> <tr> <td>FULL NAME OF SECOND JOINT INVENTOR (IF ANY) <b>KORN, Jonathan</b></td> <td>INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE <i>Jonathan Korn</i></td> <td>DATE <b>1/8/99</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">RESIDENCE (City and either State or Foreign Country)</td> <td>COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3">POST OFFICE ADDRESS</td> </tr> <tr> <td>FULL NAME OF THIRD JOINT INVENTOR (IF ANY)</td> <td>INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE</td> <td>DATE</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">RESIDENCE (City and either State or Foreign Country)</td> <td>COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3">POST OFFICE ADDRESS</td> </tr> </table>			COUNTRY	APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	PRIORITY CLAIMED UNDER 35 U.S.C. 119				YES ____ NO ____				YES ____ NO ____				YES ____ NO ____	UNITED STATES APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	STATUS (patented, pending, abandoned)										FULL NAME OF SOLE OR FIRST INVENTOR <b>HARRY KORN</b>	INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE <i>Harry Korn</i>	DATE <b>1/8/99</b>	RESIDENCE 159 East 69th Street, New York, New York 10021		COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP US	POST OFFICE ADDRESS SAME AS ABOVE			FULL NAME OF SECOND JOINT INVENTOR (IF ANY) <b>KORN, Jonathan</b>	INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE <i>Jonathan Korn</i>	DATE <b>1/8/99</b>	RESIDENCE (City and either State or Foreign Country)		COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP	POST OFFICE ADDRESS			FULL NAME OF THIRD JOINT INVENTOR (IF ANY)	INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE	DATE	RESIDENCE (City and either State or Foreign Country)		COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP	POST OFFICE ADDRESS		
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Serial or Patent No.: \_\_\_\_\_

OFGS File No. P/3253-3

Filing or Issue Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant or Patentee: Hayley Korn

For: APPARATUS FOR DISABLING A TELEPHONE RINGER

**VERIFIED STATEMENT (DECLARATION) CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY STATUS**  
**37 CFR 1.9(f) and 1.27(b) - INDEPENDENT INVENTOR**

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that I qualify as an independent inventor as defined in 37 CFR 1.9(c) for purposes of paying reduced fees under 35 USC §41(a) and (b) to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office with regard to the invention entitled APPARATUS FOR DISABLING A TELEPHONE RINGER described in

☒ U.S. Patent Application filed herewith

☐ U.S. Patent Application Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_ filed \_\_\_\_\_

☐ U.S. Patent No. \_\_\_\_\_ issued \_\_\_\_\_

I have not assigned, granted, conveyed or licensed and am under no obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey or license, any rights in the invention to any person who could not be classified as an independent inventor under 37 CFR 1.9(c) if that person had made the invention, or to any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d) or a nonprofit organization under 37 CFR 1.9(e).

Each person, concern or organization to which I have assigned, granted, conveyed or licensed or am under an obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey or license any rights in the invention is listed below:

☐ no such person, concern or organization

☐ persons, concerns or organizations listed below\*

NOTE: Separate verified statements are required from each named person, concern or organization having rights to the invention averring to their status as small entities. 37 CFR 1.27

FULL NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ INDIVIDUAL

☐ SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN

☐ NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ INDIVIDUAL

☐ SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN

☐ NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

I acknowledge the duty to file in this patent application or patent, notification of any change of status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate. 37 CFR 1.29(b).

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 USC §1001, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the patent application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

HAYLEY KORN

Name of Inventor

Hayley Korn ✓  
Signature of Inventor

1/8/99  
Date

Jonathan Korn  
Name of Inventor

[Signature]  
Signature of Inventor

1/8/99  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Inventor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Inventor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date